

Remarks/Arguments:

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 and 21-23 are presently active in this case; Claims 1, 2, and 21 having been amended; and Claims 15-20 having been previously withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. No claims are newly added or cancelled herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the Background of the Invention; and Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the Background of the Invention in view of Wen et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,918,121). Claims 5-14, 22, and 23 were allowed.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 5-14, 22, and 23 are allowed.

Applicant thanks Examiner Mandala for the telephone interview granted Applicant's representative on October 22, 2003. During the interview, it was tentatively agreed that the amended Claims 1 and 21, as presented herewith, patentably distinguish over the references of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the outstanding rejections have been rendered moot by this amendment.

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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